GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3662
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
SCHEME TO RECHARGE GROUND WATER
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has formulated any scheme of recharging the ground water with an estimated cost of Rs. 150 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme has since been submitted to the Planning Commission for approval;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any consultations were held with State Governments before reformulating the scheme; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and by when the scheme is likely to be cleared?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Water Resources had formulated a Central Sector Scheme on 'Artificial Recharge to Ground Water' at an estimated cost of Rs. 150 crore for implementation during X Five Year Plan. The scheme envisaged construction of 2344 recharge structures in 'over-exploited' and 'Dark' blocks as well as drought prone and water scarcity areas of the country.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission, however, suggested that the scheme may be modified as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with funding pattern of 75:15:10 between the Centre, State and beneficiaries.

(e) & (f) As the scheme proposed was a Central Sector Scheme, consultations with State Governments were not held. Keeping in view the suggestions received from Planning Commission, the Ministry has prepared a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water and Rain Water Harvesting" at an estimated cost of Rs. 3000 crore with funding pattern of 90:10 between the Centre and beneficiaries for implementation during X Five Year Plan and referred it to the Planning Commission for their 'in principle' approval. It is not possible, at this stage, to indicate the time frame for the clearance of the scheme.